

ONY

willed him to shut up a number of swine and give some of them Roman names, others Gothish names with several marks, and there to leave them.

ONSET. *n. f.* [on and set.]

1. Attack; storm; assault; first brute.

As well the soldier dieth, which standeth still, as he that gives the bravest onset.

All breathless, weary, faint,

Him spying, with fresh onset he assail'd,

And kindling new his courage, seeming quaint,

Struck him so hugely, that through great contrainst

He made him stoop.

The shout

Of battle now began, and rushing found

Of onset.

Sometimes it gains a point; and presently it finds itself

baffled and beaten off; yet still it renews the onset, attacks

the difficulty afresh; plants this reasoning and that argument,

like so many intellectual batteries, till at length it forces a

way into the obstinate enclosed truth.

Without men and provisions it is impossible to secure con-

quests that are made in the first onsets of an invasion.

The first impetuous onsets of his grief;

Use every artifice to keep him steadfast.

2. Something added by way of ornamental appendage.

This sense, says Nicholson, is still retained in Northumberland,

where onset means a tuft.

I will with deeds requite thy gentleness;

And for an onset, Titus, to advance

Thy name and honourable family,

Lavinia will I make my empress.

ONSET. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To set upon; to begin.

This for a while was hotly onsets and a reasonable price

offered, but soon cooled again.

ONSLAUGHT. *n. f.* [on and slay.] See SLAUGHTER.] At-

tack; storm; onset.

They made a halt

To view the ground, and where t' assault,

Then call'd a council, which was best,

By siege or onslaught to invest

The enemy; and 'twas agreed

By storm and onslaught to proceed.

ONTOLOGIST. *n. f.* [from ontology.] One who considers the

affections of being in general; a metaphysician.

ONTOLOGY. *n. f.* [ὄντα and λόγος.] The science of the af-

fections of being in general; metaphysics.

The modes, accidents and relations that belong to various

beings, are copiously treated in metaphysics, or more

properly ontology.

ONWARD. *adv.* [onward, Saxon.]

1. Forward; progressively.

My lord,

When you went onward on this ended action,

I look'd upon her with a soldier's eye.

Satan was now at hand, and from his feat

The monster moving onward came as fast,

With horrid strides.

Him thro' the spicy forest onward come

Adam discern'd, as in the door he sat

Of his cool bow'r.

Not one looks backward, onward still he goes,

Yet ne'er looks forward farther than his nose.

2. In a state of advanced progression.

Philoxenus came to see how onward the fruits were of his

friends labour.

You are already so far onward of your way, that you have

forfeited the imitation of ordinary converse.

3. Somewhat farther.

A little onward lend thy guiding hand

To these dark steps, a little farther on.

ONYCHA. *n. f.* It is found in two different senses in scrip-

ture. — The odoriferous snail or shell, and the stone named

onyx. The greatest part of commentators explain it by

the onyx or odoriferous shell, like that of the shell-fish

called purpura. The onyx is fished for in watry places of

the Indies, where grows the spicanardi, which is the food of

this fish and what makes its shell so aromatick.

Take sweet spices, onychas, and galbanum.

ONYX. *n. f.* [ὄνυξ.] The onyx is a semipellucid gem, of

which there are several species, but the bluish white kind,

with brown and white zones, is the true onyx legitima of the

ancients. It is a very elegant and beautiful gem, and the

regular arrangement and disposition of its colours make amends

for their want of show.

Nor are her rare endowments to be sold,

For glittering find by Ophir shewn.

The blue-eyed saphir, or rich onyx stone.

The onyx is an accidental variety of the agat kind: it is

of a dark horny colour, in which is a plate of a bluish white,

and sometimes of red: when on one or both sides the white,

OPE

there happens to lie also a plate of a reddish or flesh colour,

the jewellers call the stone a fardonyx.

OPE. *n. f.* [either from *opus*, waters, French; or *open*,

wetness, Saxon.]

1. Soft mud; mire at the bottom of water; slime.

My son i' th' ooze is bedded.

Some carried up into their grounds the ooze or salt water

mud, and found good profit thereby.

Old father Thames rais'd up his rev'rend head,

Deep in his ooze he fought his scaly bed,

And thrunk his waters back into his urn.

2. Soft flow; spring. This seems to be the meaning in Prior.

From his first fountain and beginning oozes,

Down to the sea each brook and torrent flows.

3. The liquor of a tanner's vat.

To Ooze. *v. n.* [from the noun.] To flow by stealth; to

run gently; to drain away.

When the contracted limbs were cramp'd, even then

A wat'rish humour swell'd and ooz'd agen.

Where creeping waters ooze,

Where marshes stagnate, and where rivers wind,

Cluster the rolling fogs.

The lilly drinks

The latent rill, scarce oozing thro' the grass.

O'OOZE. *adj.* [from ooze.] Mirey; muddy; slimy.

From his oozy bed,

Old father Thames advanced his rev'rend head.

To OPA'CA'CE. *v. a.* [opacis, Lat.] To shade; to cloud; to

darken; to obscure.

The same corpulence upon the untopping of the glass, did

opacitate that part of the air they moved in.

OPA'CITY. *n. f.* [opacitas, Fr. opacitas, Lat.] Cloudiness; want

of transparency.

Can any thing escape the perspicacity of those eyes in whose

opticks there is no opacity?

Had there not been any night, shadow or opacity, we should

never have had any determinate conceit of darkness.

How much any body hath of colour, so much hath it of

opacity, and by so much the more unfit is it to transmit the

species.

The least parts of almost all natural bodies, are in some

measure transparent, and the opacity of those bodies ariseth

from the multitude of reflexions caused in their internal parts.

OPA'CIOUS. *adj.* [opacis, Latin.] Dark; obscure; not trans-

parent.

When he perceives that these opacis bodies do not hinder

the eye from judging light to have an equal diffusion through

the whole place that it irradiates, he can have no difficulty to

allow air, that is diaphanous, and more subtle far than they,

and consequently, divisible into lesser atoms; and having

lesser pores, gives less scope to our eyes to miss light.

Upon the firm opacis globe

Of this round world, whose first convex divides

The luminous inferior orbs, inclos'd

From chaos, and th' inroad of darkness old,

Satan alighted.

OPAL. *n. f.* The opal is a very elegant and a very singular

kind of stone, it hardly comes within the rank of the pellucid

gems, being much more opaque, and less hard. It is found

always in the pebble shape of various sizes, from the head

of a pin to the bigness of a walnut. It is naturally bright,

smooth and glossy, and shows all its beauty without the help

of the lapidary: in colour it much resembles the finest mo-

ther of pearl; its basis seeming a bluish or greyish white,

but with a property of reflecting all the colours of the rain-

bow, as turned differently to the light, among which the

green and the blue are particularly beautiful, but the fiery

red is the finest of all. This stone is found in the East-Indies,

in Egypt, Persia and Tartary, and in some parts of Europe,

particularly in Bohemia; but the oriental is much the finest.

Thy mind is a very opal.

In circuit, undetermin'd square or round;

With opal tow'rs, and battlements adorn'd

Of living saphir.

We have this stone from Germany, and is the same with

the opal of the ancients.

OPA'QUE. *adj.* [opacis, Lat.]

They

Shot upward still direct, whence no way round

Shadow from body opaque can fall.

These disappearing fixt stars were actually extinguish'd

and turned into more opaque and gross planet-like bodies.

To OPE. } *v. a.* [open, Saxon; *op*, Islandick, a hole. Ope

To O'PEN. } is used only in poetry, when one syllable is more

convenient than two.]

1. To unclofe; to unlock; to put into such a state as that the

inner parts may be seen or entered.

The

OPE

The world's mine oyster,

Which I with sword will open.

Before you fight, ope this letter.

They consent to work us harm and woe,

To ope the gates, and so let in our foe.

If a man open a pit and not cover it, and an ox fall there-

in, the owner of the pit shall make it good.

Let us pass through your land, and none shall do you any

hurt; howbeit they would not open unto him.

Open thy mouth for the dumb in the cause of all such as

are appointed to destruction.

Open to me the gates of righteousness.

Adam, now ope thine eyes; and first behold

Th' effects which thy original crime hath wrought

In some to spring from thee.

Our fleet Apollo sends,

Where Tuscan Tyber rolls with rapid force,

And where Numicus ope's his holy source.

When first you ope your doors, and passing by

The sad ill-omen'd object meets your eye.

When the matter is made, the file must be opened to let

it out.

2. To flow; to discover.

The English did adventure far for to open the north parts

of America.

3. To divide; to break.

The wall of the cathedral church was opened by an earth-

quake, and shut again by a second.

4. To explain; to disclose.

Some things wisdom openeth by the sacred books of scrip-

ture, some things by the glorious works of nature.

Paul reasoned with them out of the scriptures, opening and

alleging, that Christ must needs have suffered and risen again

from the dead.

After the earl of Lincoln was slain, the king opened him-

self to some of his council, that he was sorry for the earl's

death, because by him he might have known the bottom of

his danger.

Grantmont governour of Bayonne, took an exquisite notice

of their persons and behaviour, and opened himself to some

of his train, that he thought them to be gentlemen of much

more worth than their habits bewrayed.

A friend who relates his success, talks himself into a new

pleasure; and by opening his misfortunes, leaves part of them

behind him.

5. To begin.

You retained him only for the opening of your cause, and

your main lawyer is yet behind.

Homer opens his poem with the utmost simplicity and mo-

desty, he continually grows upon the reader.

To OPE. } *v. n.*

1. To unclofe itself; not to remain shut; not to continue closed.

The hundred doors

Ope of themselves; a rushing whirlwind roars

Within the cave.

My old wounds are open'd at this view,

And in my murd'r's preference bleed anew.

Unnumber'd treasures ope at once,

From each the nicely culls with curious toil,

And decks the goddesses.

2. To bark. A term of hunting.

If I cry out thus upon no trail, never trust me when I open

again.

The night restores our actions done by day;

As hounds in sleep will open for their prey.

Cytheron loudly calls me to my way;

Thy hounds, Taygetus, open and pursue their prey.

Hark! the dog opens, take thy certain aim;

The woodcock flutters.

OPA'QUE. } *adj.* [Opacis, Latin.]

OPA'QUE. } them in the primitive not figurative sense.]

1. Unclofed; not shut.

The gates are ope; now prove good seconds;

'Tis for the followers fortune widens them;

Not for the fliers.

Most sacrilegious murder hath broke ope

The lord's anointed temple, and stole thence

The life o' th' building.

Then sent Sanballat his servant, with an open letter in his

hand.

With the same key set ope the door

Wherewith you lock'd it fast before.

Thro' the gate,